

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 CPR-02 SCA-01 SCS-03 INR-10 RSR-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6932

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1131

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A) STATE 47175; B) SOFIA 1127

1. WHILE CALLING ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TRAYKOV ON ANOTHER MATTER (REF B), CHARGE RAISED STATUS OF CONSULAR AGREEMENT BY SAYING THAT LUKANOV VISIT HAD BEEN GREAT SUCCESS AND WE LIKE GOB LOOKED FORWARD TO BROADENING OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE CERTAIN ISSUES WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE RESOLVED LIKE CONCLUSION OF A CONSULAR AGREEMENT. CHARGE ADDED THAT USG HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN WAITING FOR BULGARIAN REPLY ON TWO OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS.

2. TRAYKOV SEEMED TO BE THROWN OFF GUARD BY HAVING ISSUE RAISED AND SAID USG HAD BULGARIAN POSITION. CHARGE REVIEWED WORK WHICH HAS BEEN DONE ON ORIGINAL DRAFT AND SAID WE NOW AWAIT GOB REPLY. TRAYKOV THEN ANGRILY SHOUTED AT BOTH SUBEV (DEPUTY DIRECTOR 8TH DEPARTMENT) AND KARASIMENOV (CHIEF, LEGAL AND TREATY DEPARTMENT) ASKING WHAT THIS WAS ALL ABOUT. SUBEV GAVE TRAYKOV AND EXPLANATION OF THE BACKGROUND INCLUDING VISIT OF SHAMWELL AND ARTICLE BY ARTICLE NEGOTIATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT TWO QUESTIONS ARE OUTSTANDING. DEFENSIVELY, TRAYKOV SAID HE HAD REFERRED TO EARLIER BULGARIAN POSITION BUT NOW UNDERSTOOD THAT NOT ALL OF

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THE ARTICLES HAD BEEN AGREED UPON AND PROMISED THAT

WE WOULD HAVE THE GOB RESPONSE "SOON". GOB IS AS
ANXIOUS TO HAVE A CONSULAR AGREEMENT AS USG, HE SAID.

3. TRAYKOV'S SHARP REACTION TO CONSULAR AGREEMENT ISSUE,
INTERESTING BUT UNABLE DETERMINE IF HE WAS ANNOYED BE-
CAUSE HE WAS NOT INFORMED OR BECAUSE SUBJECT HAD BEEN
RAISED WITH HIM UNEXPECTEDLY.

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